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Ms. Beth Rodriguez  
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March 29, 1999

FDA  
Dockets Management Branch  
5630 Fishers lane  
Suite 1061  
Rockville, Maryland  
20852

Dear FDA:

I have recently learned of efforts by CSPI to eliminate consumer choice in the matter of raw oysters and am writing to share my extreme displeasure at this prospect.

What CSPI is asking FDA to consider amounts to yet another misguided special interest attempt to allow government to assume the role of parent and guardian for everyone else. Certainly a small number of people with certain health conditions should be cautious of what they eat (and drink). Still, this is an issue of personal responsibility. The seafood industry does a good job of posting health warnings for all possible oyster consumers to see. The rest should be up to the individual consumer, not the FDA.

There are other important side-bar issues to consider as well, namely cost, consumer choice and the bad precedent these rules would set. All of these are compelling reasons to soundly refute CSPI's arguments and renew the proper focus on consumer education and product research.

Say no to these poorly conceived rules and reject further unnecessary intrusions into consumer's personal decisions.

Very truly yours,

Beth Rodriguez

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